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ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF IRISH HISTORY.

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INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO DISTRIBUTE THE BOUNTY OF THE IRISH SOCIETY OF LONDON AMONG THE DISTRESSED INHABITANTS OF LONDONDERRY, IN 1689.

[From the Unpublished Records of the Irish Society.*]

Court, 18 Dec. 1689.

At this Court the Committee appointed to prepare Instructions for the Commissioners named to distribute the £500 now lying at Chester,^b to be transported to Londonderry for the relief of the poor there—Presented the said Instructions, with a Letter to the said Commissioners, which being read were approved of and ordered to be fairly copied, signed, and sent by the next post. And it was ordered that the Treasurer do desire Mr. Manwaring at Chester, in whose hands the said Money is lodged, to hasten the transportation thereof.

The Instructions are as follows :—

Instructions for Jervis Squire, Mayor of Londonderry; Colonel John Mitchelborne, Governor of the same;

Alderman Alexander Tomkins;

Hugh Rowley, Esqr.,

Warham Jemmett,

John Moggridge, and

Samuel Jackson, Esqrs.,^c

nominated and appointed Commissioners for the ends and purposes hereinafter mentioned and expressed; whereof any three or more of them to be a Quorum.

* From an accurate copy supplied to the Rev. A. Dawson, (Belfast), by John E. Davies Esq., Secretary of the Irish Society, May 5, 1854.

^b At a previous Court, held Oct. 16, 1689, "the Committee appointed to consider how to send, and methods of distributing such relief as shall be thought fit to be sent to the poor Inhabitants of Londonderry—made their Report, That it was their opinion, that Five hundred pounds in Gold should be sent to Chester, either to be sent by sea to Londonderry. &c."

^c Of these, Mitchelborne, Moggridge, and Jackson,

were added to the list as it appears adopted at the Court, on the 16th of October previously.

Squire was twice before Mayor of Derry; he died on the 7th of January, 1694, according to *Graham*; but a person of the same name at least, was Mayor in 1699. *Mitchelborne* succeeded *Baker* as Assistant-Governor; his services and pecuniary losses in that capacity were never requited by William. He died at Derry, October 1, 1721, aged 76 years. *Tomkins* was Mayor of Derry in 1683; he died on the 29th of April, 1692. *Jemmett* was Collector of the Customs at Derry: a few years after the siege he removed to Cork. *Moggridge* was the Town Clerk.

WE, the Society of the Governor and Assistants of London, of the New Plantation in Ulster, within the Realm of Scotland, having taken into our consideration the great sufferings and deplorable condition of the Inhabitants of Londonderry, in Ireland, since December 1688, by reason of the late Siege, and being deeply affected with the sense thereof, have obtained from the several Companies of London a supply of £1,200, for the present necessities of the said Inhabitants, and to encourage them to the rebuilding of their respective houses; which sum is to be disposed of as we from time to time shall see convenient to appoint and direct; and having, in order to so charitable and good an End, nominated you, the persons before-mentioned, as Commissioners and Trustees to put the same in Execution, We cannot in the least doubt, that as the Money is by us designed for the Relief of such whose Indigence and pressing Necessity renders them fit objects of Charity, so you will conscientiously divide the same, as it may best answer to those good Ends, without expectation of any further Reward for your pains and trouble therein, than what the bountiful hand of Heaven bestows upon such as are Instruments of good to their poor and indigent fellow-creatures.

I. You are hereby desired to cause a List, or Schedule to be made of all the names of the Society's Tenants, with the number of their present families in a book on purpose, and wherein and in what streets their respective houses lye; together with such as are not Tenants to the Society, and have been useful in the Defence of the City, and are fit objects of Charity, separately and apart from the said Tenants; for the better and more orderly distribution of this sum of £500, and what more may hereafter follow.

II. You may please to understand, that it is our desire you should, in the distribution of this Charity, have a more particular regard, in the first place, to such as are Tenants to the Society; not that we intend hereby to restrain you to them only, but that it may in some measure extend to others also, who are known to all or some of you to have been Dwellers in the City for some competent time before the first of October, 1688, and useful in the Defence of the City as aforesaid, and whether they be tenants or not, yet are likely persons to remain Inhabitants of the City for the future.

III. You are to have a special regard to the several Ranks and Conditions of Men, the number of their families, and their pressing necessities, without favour or ill-will towards any one, giving preference to such as have lived in better quality and are now reduced to poverty; and, on the other hand, you may be less bountiful to such whose former manner of living has been in lower degree, or whose present Trades and Employments now afford them a better means of supporting themselves and their families, and under these several circumstances to govern yourselves with prudence, Justice, and good Conscience.

IV. You must be very mindful of the poor Widows and Orphans of such as have been killed or died in the Defence of the City, proportioning the Charity according to their wants and Exigencies, as those that are least able to provide for themselves.

V. You are desired to insert in the Schedule of names, before mentioned, the particular sums given to each person, in words at length, and then carried out in Columns in figures; calling the respective persons before you, or three of you at least, and there paying the same to them, or to such persons as they shall order, in case of sickness or other impediment, without any manner of deduction whatsoever, taking receipts for every sum to be paid accordingly.

VI. Having settled the Charity and distributed the same, We desire the book may be deposited in the hands of the Mayor for the time being, there to remain, and a Duplicate thereof sent to us; reserving such small sums in your hands as may be sufficient to pay a Clerk for transcribing the same, or any other writings and papers which this Commission may require, giving us from time to time, a full and perfect account of your proceedings in this affair.

VII. In all your Debates arising considering the distribution of this Charity, you shall determine the same by a majority of hands or Votes, and no determination shall be made when there is not present a Quorum of 3 of you at the least; and upon the receipt of these our Instructions that Intimation may be given to the Mayor and Common Council, with a copy of them, that they may have full Information of our Instructions in this matter.

VIII. That you will carefully endeavour to obviate all frauds that may be designed, by any person or persons whatsoever, for the attaining any part of this benevolence contrary to the true Intent and meaning thereof.

Wherein God Almighty direct you all. Dated at Guildhall, London, the 18th of December, 1689.^d

^d It has been ascertained that there is no note among the Records of the Society intimating the subsequent distribution of the remainder of the subsidy, or of any sum additional to that specified in the above Instructions. In the *Concise View of the Irish Society*, under the

date September 6, 1689, it is said, in general terms,—“the required contributions (viz. £100 a-piece from the twelve Companies of London) were obtained, and afterwards distributed among the sufferers by the Siege.”

No. 5.

[S. P. O. Ireland, May to Aug. 1608. no. 171.]

[SIR JOHN DAVIES, the writer of this letter, was born at Chisgrove, in Wiltshire, in 1570, according to the *Biographia Britannica*, and educated at Queen's College, Oxford, whence he passed to the Temple, and was called to the bar. He was knighted by James I., and made Attorney-General of Ireland by the same prince. He returned to England and became a judge. In 1626 he was appointed Chief Justice of the King's Bench, but died shortly afterwards of apoplexy. His wife, Eleanor Touchet, daughter of Lord Audley, was a prophetess, and printed several pamphlets of predictions. Of a son and daughter only the latter survived her illustrious father; she married the Earl of Huntingdon. Besides a well known collection of tracts, the most important relating to Ireland, Sir John wrote several poems which were collected and published in 1773; the most important of these was entitled *Nosce Teipsum*.]

It may please yr Lp, the departure of this bearer is so suddayn, as I shall omitt many things fitt to be adv'tised; & indeed, I had altogether omitted to write at this tyme, if I had not thought it an

omission of my duty, bycause I know my lo: Deputy hath now dispatcht a relacion at large of the occurrents of this iowrney: wherein three maine services of different nature go hand in hand and ar performed together, namely, the prosecution of the Rebell by the Sword; the distribution of Justice according to the Law; and the exact surveying of all such Lands as ar come to his matie's hands by the attaynder of the fugitives, or by any other title, in the severall counteys of this province.

Touching the prosecutions of the Kibells; the messengers of ill newws came not so thicke one after another to Job as the messengers of good newes have come vnto vs; for to pass over the good accidents wch hapned before we began our iowrney; viz. the re-possessing of the Derry, the recovery of Kilmore, the over runing & spoyling of all Enishowen by the soldier; the putting of o Doghertie out of Glanvagh the surest fastnes in Vlster; the giving vp of Birt Castle absolutely wthout protection or capitulation; & the arresting and restrayning of Sr Neal Garve o'donnell, wch was the most important service of all; I will note vnto y^r lp the good occurrents wch have succeeded one another since our departure from Dublin.

The next day after wee entred into this iourney, wee mett wth the newes of odogherties death; which hapned not only uppon the 8th day of the moneth & on a *Tuesday*,* but the Tuesday eleven weekes, that is 77 dayes after the burning of the Derry,—wch is an aminos number, being seaven Elevens, & eleven seavens; besides it hapned in the very hower, if not the very instant, when the lo: Deputy took horse to go this iowrney against him.

Wthin two dayes (after wee had heard of oDogherties death) newes came of the taking of Shane Carragh o'Chane (brother to Sr Donell o'Chane now prisoner—the castell of Dublin) by Hugh m^cShane oneale & others of the inhabitants of the Glynnnes of Glanconkeyn, who were themselves no better than outlawes; but they perceaving that Shane Carragh had gotten a great pray of Cowes, & brought them into the Glynnnes, and vnderstanding that the lo: Deputy had by proclamation promised pardon to evry one, that should take or kill a Rebell; together wth all the goods of the Rebell so taken or slayne, they tooke this opportunity to gett their pardons, & to enrich themselves wth the pray.

Within 2 dayes after that, Oghy oge o'Hanlons sonne and heir to the cheef ohanlons who having married odoghertie's sister drew wth him 100 men into this Rebellion, being after his brother in awe's death retired out of Tirconnell & com ovr the black water, wth Phelims Reaugh m^cDavid (the first mover of all these late mischances) 'I he lo: Deputie sent out sundry companies of light stript men to pursue them; one of which companies fell vpon them in the woods wthin 3 or 4 miles from or camp & tooke all their horses & such vittayle as they had, killed some of them, tooke others prisoners, the rest escaping by flight scatted evry one by himself; among the rest odoghertie's sister, oghy ohanlon's wife, was found alone by an Irish soldier who knew her not & stript of her apparell,

*Girald^r Cambrensis noteth, that Tuesday was ev^r a fortunate day for the English in the conquest of Ireland.

was so left in the woods, where she died the next day of cold & famine being lately before delivered of a child.

The next dayafter, S^r oliv^r Lambert cam to o^r camp & brought assurance of the rendering of Castle Do in Tirconnell, the strongest hold in all this province, wch endured 100 blowes of the demi-canon before it was yeilded to the marshall.

Again shortly after this, word was brought that odoghertie's bastard brother (who had before fallen vpon the marshalls army in the night & had slayne S^r Harry oge oneale) was, wth div^rs others, taken in Tirconnell; whereof som were executed by marshall Law & others reserved to be tried by the ordinary course of common law when wee shold com wth our comission of Gaol deliv^ry into that county.

Breefly then scarcely passed one day wherein wee heard not of the killing and taking some of the scattred rebells, ether by the king's soldiers or by some of the Rebells theselves, one betraying another to gott his own pardon & the goods of the party betrayed; so as the lo: Deputy's policy in making the proclamation, wch I spake of before, hath taken effect beyond expectations, among this viperous generation of Rebells, who ar become like the armed men of Cadmus (in the fable) wch sprung vp from the teeth of a serpent sown in the earth, but preasently fought one wth another & vtterly destroyed themselves.

And now last of all, as soon as wee came to the Banne side (where wee camp at this present) wee heard from the marshall, that he had taken Phelim Reaugh m^cDavid, the fierbrand of this Rebellion whom hee reserveth alive to be tried by course of com^m law, when wee come into Tirconnell, wch will bee wth in 3 dayes at farthest.

Thus much touching the prosecution of the Rebells, wherein God hath blessed vs exceedingly evr since or first entrance into this iourney, and wee hope, by the same divine favour, wee shall have the like successe continually till our returne.

Touching the distribution of civill Justice; wee held our first session at Armagh where wee had a great appearance & good attendance; The grand Jury did most willingly indite their kinsmen and followers who were gone out into Rebellion wth young ohanlon & Brian m^cArt's sonne; præsenting vnto vs a list of the names of all the natives of that county wch were then in action of Rebellion, to the end it might appear whose sonnes, or servants, or followers, they were, that the father, maister, or cheefe Lord might be charged to bring them to Justice, according to a speciall act of parliament in this Realme.

The next sessions wee held at Dungannon for the county of Tirone, where the Hagans, the Quins, the Divilins, & Donelyes, & the rest of the late Earle's followers gave as diligent attendance as they were wont when their fugitive maister was present. Heer, Shane Carragh oChane was indited, tried, & found guilty by his own kinsmen & frends; & having Judgement of high Treason was accordingly

executed in the camp, & his head sett vpon the Castle of Dunganon in this place ; a monk who was a principall cosellor to o'Dogherty, & was taken in Birt Castle, did voluntarily in the sight of all the people, cast off his religious habit, & renounce his obedience to the pope, wherevpon my lo : Deputy gave him his lif & his liberty.

From Dugannon wee passed into the county of Colraine, through the Glinnes & woods of Clanconkeyn, where the wilde inhabitants did as much wonder to see the king's Deputy, as the goasts, in Virgill, did wonder to see Æneas alive in Hell. but his Lps passing that way was of good importance 2 wayes for his matie's service ; for both himself and all the officers of his army have discovered that unknown fastnes ; & also the people of the cotrey knowing their fastnes to bee discovered, will not trust so much therein as heretofore ; wch trust made them præsum to comitt so many thefts, murders & rebellions. for assuredly, they præsumed more vpon our ignorance of their entreyes, than vpon their owne strength.

In the county of Colrane wee held our third session ; when after we had indited such as ar now in rebellion, wee found no extraordinary busines but that O'Chane's priest & goastly father being takin in action of Rebellion, wth Shane Carragh o'chane, was indited, tried, condemned, & executed for Treason ; & so taught the people better doctrine by the example of his death then hee had donne in all his lif before. He excepted to our Jurisdiction, affirming that the secular power could not condemne a priest for any offence whatsoever ; but the countrey saw that poynt of Doctrine falsified both by his Judgment & Execution. Thus much for the distribution of civill Justice.

Touching the survey of these cuntreys wch ar now devolved to the crowne ; Mr. Treasurer and myself before the coming of the surveyor vnto vs) tooke an inquisition at Dunganon whareby was surveyd all the county of Tirone ; & found all the Temporall land in that coty to bee escheated to the crowne by the owlwry of the late Earle (excepting only 2 ballibetaghcs wch were granted to Sr Harry ogeoneale by his matie) & the rest of the lands there church lands, being in the possession of certen schollers called Herenaghcs & whereof they were in ancient timestrew owners & proprietaries ; the Jury found to bee resumed & vested in the crown by the statut of 11^o Elizabethæ whereby Shane oneale was attaynted, & nevr since devested by any grant fro the late queen, or from his matie. Before wee came to Colrane the surveyor came vnto vs, & since our cuming thither, he hath taken the like survey of that little county conteyning oChanes cutrey ; and all wch, without exception of any parcell of land Teporall or Spirituall, (as they call it), ar found to bee in the actuall possession of the crowne by the said act of Resumption, since wch tyme oChane & all the inhabitants haue been intruders.

Wee ar now passing into Tirconnell, all wch cuntrey is now entirely come into his maties hands partly by the Owlwry of the fugitive Earle & partly by the late Rebellion of oDoherties as for Sr Neal Garw hee had great part vnto him of his portions of they cuntrey. So as wee hope be-

fore Michelmas to præsent vnto y^r Lp a perfect survey of six whole counteys, wch now his matie hath in Demeane & in actuall possession in this province, wch is a greater extent of Land then any prince in Europe hath in his own hands to dispose. The disposing whereof by plantation of colonies, is a matter of great consideration, & wherein it is not, perhaps, easy, to lay downe a good & a sure project. There have been sundry plantations in this kingdome, whereof the first plantations of the English pale was the best, & the last plantations of the vndertakers in Munster the worst.

The first plantations in Vlster on the sea costs by Sir Jo : Courcy, & the Bourke ; the plantations in Conaght by the Bourks and Geraldines ; in Thomond by Sr Tho : de Clare ; in Mōster by the Geraldines, Butlers, Barries, Roches, and other English families, ar in part Rooted out by the Irish, & such part as remayne much degenerate, wch will happen to this plantation w^{thin} a few yeares, if the numb^re of civill persons who are to bee planted do not much exceed the numb^re of the natives, who will quickly overgrowse them, as weeds ovrgrow the good corne.

This rude and hasty advertisement I have præsumed to give vnto y^r Lp at this tyme, hoping that the leasure of the progress will permitt y^r Lp to Read part thereof. The latter part of or Journey I hope to report vnto y^r Lp myself before Michelmas & so presentg my humble Duty I take leave & remayne at y^r Lps comndmt most dutifully.

Jo : DAUYS.

From the camp

near Colrane.

8 Augusti, 1608.

[Endorsed "8 Aug. 1608. Sr John Daues to my Lord."]
